

WHITEHAVEN
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
For the Year 1919.

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Medical Officer of Health.

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To the Whitehaven Rural District Council.

WHITEHAVEN,

7th April, 1920.

GENTLEMEN,

I now submit to you my first Annual Report—for the year 1919. The Ministry of Health have laid down the lines which the report is to follow, and have asked for a very comprehensive and detailed statement of existing conditions, with suggestions as to future needs. I am scarcely in a position, as yet, to make so full and exact a statement as I should like my report to contain, and as the Ministry desire. To become intimately acquainted with all the local conditions of each parish in a wide area such as that of the Whitehaven Rural District requires a longer time than that during which I have been in your service, and I shall therefore have to leave some matters to be more fully dealt with in future annual reports.

The population at the 1911 Census was 14,147. For 1919, as for several previous years, the Registrar-General has provided two estimates of the population—one, the total population belonging to the district and including the men who were away serving with the Forces during the year, and the other, the civilian population, excluding these men. The Total Population is estimated at 14,137. This figure is used for calculation of the Birth-rate. The Civilian Population is estimated at 13,571. This figure is used for the calculation of the Death-rate. The effect of using these two numbers is to make the Birth-rate slightly lower and the Death-rate slightly higher than would be the case if both rates were calculated on a figure between the two estimates. As the next Census is due in 1921 we shall soon have an opportunity of discovering what the actual population is.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Whitehaven Rural District embraces a large tract of country which is, roughly, a parallelogram in shape, running from N.W. to S.E., and which is almost completely divided into a smaller North-Western and a larger South-Eastern portion by a narrow strip of country composed of the Arlecdon and Frizington, the Cleator Moor and the Egremont Urban Districts, this strip forming as it were an isthmus jutting into the Whitehaven Rural District and based on its North-Eastern

boundary. The length of the parallelogram is about fifteen miles, and the breadth about ten miles.

The actual area of the Rural District is 74,402 acres.

It is bounded on N.W. by the Harrington Urban District, the sea, and the Borough of Whitehaven, on the S.W. by the sea, on the N.E. by the Cockermouth Rural District, and on the S.E. by the Bootle Rural District.

The Westerly parts of the District are undulating agricultural country with a number of industrial villages. To the East the District stretches away into barren Fell and moorland country and includes Ennerdale Lake and a portion of Wastwater.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industries are agriculture and coal and iron ore mining. The conditions under which the inhabitants live vary from those of thinly-populated sheep-farming districts, with a few isolated farms and cottages, to those of fairly large industrial villages, exhibiting practically urban conditions, on a small scale.

The amount of unemployment during the year has been small and there is, consequently, not much serious poverty, although the heavy cost of living must have entailed severe hardship on a certain number of people subsisting on small fixed incomes. The amount of poor-law relief granted during the year was moderate, the proportion per thousand of the population corresponding closely to that for England and Wales as a whole.

The Whitehaven and West Cumberland Infirmary plays a very useful part in providing hospital accommodation for those in need of it. It is taken advantage of to a considerable extent by the inhabitants of the Rural District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Table I. shows the principal Vital Statistics and a comparison with those of the five previous years. The number of Births was 318, of which 168 were male and 150 female. The preponderance of males over females is almost completely counteracted even in the first year of life by the infant deaths, of which twenty-two were male and eight female. The Birth-rate is 22.49 and is lower than that of any of the previous five years. The number of Illegitimate Births was fifteen.

The number of Deaths was 189 and the Death-rate 13.91, which was lower than the rates of the two preceding years but higher than those of the previous three years. The Death-rate is still very much lower than the Birth-rate. The number of

deaths under one year of age was thirty and the Infant Mortality-rate 94.33. This is 3.73 below the average for the previous five years. It is considerably swelled by the seven deaths from Influenza.

Compared with England and Wales as a whole the Birth-rate is high (22.49 in the Whitehaven Rural District as against 18.8 in England and Wales). The Death-rate is almost the same in each case (13.91 in the Whitehaven Rural District, 13.8 in England and Wales). The Infant Mortality-rate, however, is considerably higher in Whitehaven Rural District, being 94.33 as against 89 in England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Infant Mortality-rate is 400 per 1,000 Illegitimate Births. This is a very high figure. The mortality among illegitimate infants is always found to be higher than that among legitimate, no doubt owing to the fact that the latter receive better care. The rate in this case is based on very low figures, so that too much significance should not be attached to it. Still, it certainly does reflect an unsatisfactory state of matters.

Table II. shows the causes of deaths. The most striking feature is the large number of deaths from Influenza (33) *i.e.*, more than one-sixth of the total deaths. Next in importance comes Heart Disease which accounted for eighteen deaths, again a high proportion of the total deaths. Bronchitis and Pneumonia together caused twenty-three deaths, some of which should probably be added to the number of deaths from Influenza. Pulmonary Tuberculosis was the cause of death in five cases, and other forms of Tuberculosis in six cases. The proportion of deaths from Tuberculosis, and especially from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, is therefore fairly low. Another satisfactory feature is the very small number of deaths from the ordinary infectious diseases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The District as a whole appears to be well supplied with water of satisfactory quality. Table VII. shows the arrangements for the water supply of the various parts of the District. During the year numerous complaints have been received as to the quantity and quality of the Distington water supply. As regards quantity, the Council have arranged for the installation of a second pump at the pumping station, which should effect a substantial improvement. As regards quality, the complaints had reference to a reddish-brown turbidity which frequently appeared. This appears to be due to a vegetable growth in the mains. It probably does not constitute a danger

to health, but it is very undesirable. Improvement was brought about by additional flushing of the mains, but turbidity continues to be present at times. The source of the water supply is Crummock Lake, which contains a very pure water. Schemes for a new supply for Distington are under consideration.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Contamination of Pow Beck, which flows through St. Bees, was discovered. This was remedied in consultation with the officials of a neighbouring authority, who were in control of the source of contamination.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Projected sewage-disposal schemes in several parts of the District were postponed, owing to the war, but are now being prepared. Tenders have been invited for an installation at Beckermeth, and schemes are being prepared for Winder and Gosforth. Improvements were carried out during the year at Moresby Sewage Works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In the villages of Distington, Hensingham, Parton and St. Bees most of the houses are provided with water-closets. In the more rural parts pail closets and earth closets are the rule. Difficulty has been experienced during the year in securing the removal of the contents of pail closets. It is apparently becoming increasingly difficult to find contractors who will undertake this work, but so far it has always been possible to make arrangements.

Similar difficulty has arisen with regard to the removal of ashes and house refuse. In some cases complaints have been made that the contractor was calling at irregular intervals or not sufficiently often. These matters have been dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector as they arose, and in all cases satisfactory arrangements have been made.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Table VIII., which has been prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, shows the number of nuisances discovered during the year. All of these were satisfactorily dealt with, without the necessity of serving statutory notices.

SCHOOLS.

On account of the prevalence of Influenza it was found necessary to close many of the schools in the early part of the year. Several schools, also, were closed towards the end of the year on account of Whooping Cough and Measles.

The following Table shows the schools closed, the period of closure and the reason for closure. In all cases the schools were closed by the County School Medical Officer, and no action on the part of this Council was necessary.

SCHOOLS CLOSED IN THE WHITEHAVEN RURAL DISTRICT IN 1919.

SCHOOL.	FROM.	TILL.	ON ACCOUNT OF.
Hensingham, Keekle Terrace	17th Feb.	24th Feb.	Chickenpox & Mumps
Hensingham Mixed, Vol. ...	20th „	7th March	Influenza & Mumps
Hensingham Infants ...	20th „	7th „	„ „
Ennerdale	24th „	7th „	Influenza
Lamplugh Co.	27th „	14th „	„
Dyon C.	4th Mar.	14th „	„
Hensingham, Keekle Terrace	6th „	21st „	„
„ Council Infants	10th „	21st „	„
„ Mixed	10th „	21st „	„
Ennerdale	10th „	21st „	„
Lamplugh Parochial ...	3rd „	14th „	„
Gosforth C.E.... ...	7th „	21st „	„
Dyon C.	17th „	21st „	„
Lamplugh C.	17th „	21st „	„
Lamplugh Parochial ...	17th „	21st „	„
Parton, Williamson's Boys ...	17th „	28th „	„
Parton Girls and Infants ...	17th „	28th „	„
Moresby	17th „	28th „	„
Nethertown	17th „	28th „	„
Hensingham, Keekle Terrace	24th „	28th „	„
„ C. Infants ...	24th „	28th „	„
Distington C. Mxd. & Infts....	20th „	4th April	Mumps
St. Bees C.	21st „	4th „	Influenza
Gosforth C.E.... ...	24th „	28th Mar.	„
Beckermest	24th „	4th April	„
Lamplugh Parochial ...	24th „	28th March	„
„ Council	24th „	28th „	„
Haile C.E.	31st „	4th April	„
Nethertown	31st „	4th „	„
Calderbridge	31st „	4th „	„
Haile C.E.	7th April	11th „	„
Calderbridge	7th „	11th „	„
Haile C.E.	14th „	22nd „	„
Calderbridge	14th „	17th „	„
Parton Infants	3rd Nov.	21st Nov.	Whooping Cough
Hensingham C. Infants ...	10th „	28th „	„
Parton Boys	11th „	21st „	„
„ Girls	11th „	21st „	„
Hensingham Mixed	17th „	28th „	„
Parton C. Boys, Girls & Infts.	21st „	5th Dec.	„
Hensingham Mixed	1st Dec.	12th „	„
„ Infants	1st „	12th „	„
Parton Infants	8th „	19th „	„
Hensingham Mixed	12th „	after Xmas	Measles
„ Infants	12th „	Holidays	„

FOOD.

The condition of cowsheds, slaughter-houses and bake-houses is dealt with in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, which is printed at the end of this report.

The only cases of unsound food dealt with during the year were two carcases of beef affected with Tuberculosis. These were condemned and destroyed. They were not exposed for sale ; in both cases the attention of the Sanitary Inspector was drawn to them by the butchers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (see Tables V. and VI.)

MEASLES.

In the last three months of the year there was a considerable epidemic of Measles and seventy-nine cases were notified. Measles was at that time prevalent throughout West Cumberland. The parishes which suffered most were Hensingham, Parton, St. Bees and Distington. These are the parishes which have the most convenient access to Whitehaven and Workington, in which towns the disease was prevalent. They are also the parishes in which conditions of life approaching urban conditions exist to the greatest extent, and Measles having been introduced would spread more readily than in the parishes which are more rural in character. No deaths occurred. Hensingham Mixed and Infant Schools were closed from the 12th December till the end of the year. Apart from the closure of schools it does not at present seem practicable to adopt any measures to prevent the spread of Measles in a district such as the Whitehaven Rural District.

DIPHTHERIA.

Ten cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. Of these, six were removed to hospital, and all these cases recovered. Of the four cases treated at home, one died. This case occurred at Lamplugh and was notified only on the day on which the patient died. I visited the house and took swabs from the throats of the other children, for bacteriological examination. Two of these children developed the disease. They were treated in hospital and recovered. At the very end of the year two cases occurred at Pica in the Parish of Distington. Other cases were sporadic cases and isolation of them apparently prevented any spread of the disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were six cases and no deaths. Three were removed to hospital. Three cases occurred about the same time at

St. Bees. They were isolated and no further cases arose. The other three cases occurred in different parishes at considerable intervals of time.

INFLUENZA.

There was a serious epidemic of Influenza which began in 1918 and extended into 1919. It accounted for thirty-three deaths, and no doubt a proportion of the twenty-three deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia should also be ascribed to Influenza. The epidemic had almost subsided at the time at which I took up my duties.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In the early part of the year Mumps, and in the latter part Whooping Cough, were fairly prevalent, especially in Hensingham, Parton and Distington, necessitating the closure of schools in these places for short periods.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Eighteen cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs and four cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Arrangements for treatment of these cases are in the hands of the County Council. One of the County Assistant Medical Officers attends at the Public Dispensary, situated in Whitehaven, and sees patients there. In some cases he visits them in their homes. Three cases were admitted to Sanatorium during the year. Your Sanitary Inspector visits the homes of all cases notified, attends to the sanitary conditions, gives advice as to the prevention of the spread of infection and, as a rule, disinfects the house when the patient dies or removes.

Apart from Influenza the year has been a satisfactory one as regards Infectious Disease.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

I. STAFF.

The Staff consists of—

- (a) The Medical Officer of Health, who is also Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer to the Borough of Whitehaven.
- (b) The Inspector of Nuisances, who is also Inspector under the Housing Acts.

2. HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Galemire Hospital, situated in the Whitehaven Rural District, and provided jointly by this and four other local authorities, is available for cases of Infectious Disease other than Smallpox. It contains forty-four beds, which can be increased to fifty in an emergency. It appears to be sufficient for the needs of the districts which it serves.

The Whitehaven Rural District Council is also a contributing authority to the Derwent Joint Smallpox Hospital Board, which has a hospital at Camerton. This hospital has six permanent beds and is so planned that temporary wards could be rapidly erected if necessity should arise.

HOUSING.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

The number of houses in the district is estimated at 2,793, of which 2,075 are working-class houses.

No new houses for the working classes were erected during the year. A start was made in the first instalment of the Council's Housing Scheme, which consists of 133 houses on the Southern District Site at Lowmill.

The population is estimated by the Registrar-General at 14,137. No important changes with regard to population took place during the year. An increase of population, estimated at 700 to 800, is anticipated within the next five or six years, on account of expected industrial developments.

Even at the present time there is a serious shortage of houses. People with large families are frequently unable to obtain houses of a suitable size, and in a good many instances young married couples are living with other families owing to inability to procure a house of any size or description.

The Council have adopted a scheme to provide 520 houses for the working-classes.

OVERCROWDING.

There is a moderate amount of overcrowding which is mainly due to the shortage of houses. Large families in some cases are occupying two or three-roomed houses on account of larger houses not being available, and in other cases married members of a family continue to live with their parents on

account of inability to obtain a house for themselves. It is hoped that when the Council's building schemes are completed it will be possible to deal effectually with overcrowding. It has not been possible to deal with any cases during the year.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The character of the houses in the district varies greatly. Most of the houses are, on the whole, fairly satisfactory, but there is a considerable number, especially of the older houses, in each parish, which are not satisfactory.

The commonest and most serious defect is dampness. This is in great measure due to the porous nature of the stone of which these houses are built. Many of the older houses are built of rubble, embedded in lime-mortar, and these houses are, as a rule, damp. Many houses, also, have no damp-proof course. Deficiency of lighting and ventilation is also fairly common.

Minor defects have been dealt with as a rule by verbal and informal notice, and have in most cases been remedied without the necessity of serving statutory notices.

Serious difficulty in remedying unfit houses has arisen from two causes :—

1. Shortage of labour for carrying out repair work.
2. Shortage of houses, preventing the making of closing orders.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

It does not appear that there are any areas requiring to be dealt with by Improvement Schemes under Part I. or Part II. of the Housing Act of 1890. We have to deal, rather, with a certain number of individual houses which are unfit for habitation and which should be dealt with by closing orders, followed by repair or demolition. This will be done when the shortage of houses is overcome to a sufficient extent to make it possible to find accommodation for displaced tenants.

APPENDICES TO THE HOUSING SECTION OF THE REPORT.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which complaints were made that they are unfit for human habitation—
Nil.

(2) Action under Section 17 of the Housing Act of 1909.

SEE TABLES IX. AND X.

(3) Action under Section 28 of the Housing Act of 1919—*Nil*.

(4) Closing Orders.

(a) Number of representations made to the Local Authority, with a view to the making of—

	Closing Orders	...	...	...	1
(b)	Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	0
(c)	Number of Closing Orders determined	...	...	...	0

(5) Demolition Orders—

(a) Number of Demolition Orders made 0

(6) Number of houses demolished voluntarily 0

(7) Obstructive Buildings—

No obstructive buildings dealt with.

(8) Staff engaged in housing work—

The Sanitary Inspector makes systematic inspections of houses in the district and reports to the Sanitary and Plans Committee.

The Medical Officer of Health inspects and advises in any cases where his advice appears to be necessary.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. S. Mc.INTOSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHITEHAVEN
RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1919 AND FIVE
PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Popula- tion estimat'd to Middle of each year.	Nett Births belonging to the District.			Nett Deaths belonging to the District.					
		Total No.	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation.	Illegitimate No.	Under 1 Year of age.				At all Ages.	
					Total No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Illegiti- mate No.	Rate per 1,000 Illeg. Births.	No.	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
1914	14,450	361	24.98	..	41	113.57	..	..	179	12.39
1915	13,722	365	26.59	..	30	82.19	..	..	172	12.53
1916	13,722	353	25.73	..	35	99.15	..	..	153	11.15
1917	13,135	330	25.12	..	37	112.10	..	..	188	14.31
1918	13,135	360	24.46	..	30	83.30	..	..	206	15.18
1919	{ 14,137* 13,571†	318	22.49	15	30	94.33	6	400	189	13.91

*—For calculation of the Birth-rate } Figures supplied by the Registrar
†—For calculation of the Death-rate } General.

Area of District in Acres	74,402	} At Census of 1911.
Total Population, at all ages	14,147	
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,766	
Average Number of Persons per house	5.11	

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1919.

Causes of Death.				Males.	Females.
All causes .. .. .	..	..	..	103	86
Enteric Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	2	2
Diphtheria and Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..
Influenza .. .. .	..	..	..	22	11
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. .. .	..	..	..	2	3
Tuberculous Meningitis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases.. .. .	..	..	..	1	2
Cancer, malignant disease .. .. .	..	..	..	5	4
Rheumatic Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis.. .. .	..	..	..	3	..
Organic Heart Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	13	5
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	5	5
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	6	7
Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	5	3
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..
Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis & Bright's Disease.. .. .	..	..	..	1	..
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1
Congenital Debility, &c. .. .. .	..	..	..	6	..
Violence, apart from Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	7	1
Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Other Defined Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	22	36
Causes ill-defined or unknown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE III.—DEATHS FROM EIGHT PRINCIPAL
ZYMOTIC DISEASES IN 1919.

Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever ..	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	4
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	0
Typhoid (Enteric) Fever ...	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	4
Total ...					9
Zymotic Death-rate per 1000 per annum ...					0·66

TABLE IV. CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATHS.

Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	...	2
Debility, Atrophy and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	7
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	3
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	2
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhage ...	...	...	...	...	1
Accidents in Birth	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...					30

Infantile Mortality Rate 94·33 per 1,000 live births.

TABLE V.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1919.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.									Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.							Age Unknown.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards		
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	10	...	1	8	1	...	...	...	...	6
Erysipelas ..	3	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	6	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	3
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	..	..	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	13	...	1	5	2	4	1	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	4	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Measles and German Measles	79	1	22	37	16	2	...	...	1	...
Acute Poli-encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary & Influenzal Pneumonia	38	2	7	8	6	7	4	1	3	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	155	5	32	63	28	16	6	1	4	9

Galemire Hospital for Infectious Diseases is situated within the Whitehaven Rural District and provided by the Whitehaven Rural District Council and the Urban District Councils of Egremont, Harrington, Cleator Moor, and Arlecdon and Frizington jointly.

TABLE VI.—SHEWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED.

PARISH.	Measles and German Measles.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Plague.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Typhoid or Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Acute Polioencephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Trench Fever.	Number of Cases removed to Hospital.
Distington ...	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	19	...	...	...	2
Ennerdale and Kinniside	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gosforth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Haile ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hensingham	33	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1
Lamplugh ...	1	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	2
Lowside Quarter	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moresby ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...
Netherwasdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Parton ...	9	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ponsonby ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Preston Quarter	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Rottington ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Bees ...	17	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Bridget's	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
St. John's ...	2	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Salter and Eskett	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Sandwith ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Weddicar ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	79	...	...	...	10	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	4	2	...	...	38	...	...	...	9

TABLE VII.—WATER SUPPLIES IN WHITEHAVEN
RURAL DISTRICT.

Parish.	Village or Hamlet	Source of Supply.	By whom supplied.
St. Bees ...	St. Bees... ..	Springs on Dent ...	R.D.C. who purchase the water in bulk.
Rottington ...	Rottington	" " ...	" " "
Sandwith ...	Sandwith	Ennerdale Lake ...	R.D.C. who purchase in bulk.
Preston Quarter...	Hut Bank and Houses and works adjacent	" " ...	" " "
Hensingham ...	Hensingham and Keekle	" " ...	Whitehaven Town Council.
Moresby ...	Scilly Banks	" " ...	R.D.C., who purchase in bulk.
	Moresby Parks... ..	" " ...	Moresby Coal Co.
	Howgate	Springs over Sandstone at the High, Moresby	R.D.C.
Parton ...	Parton	Ennerdale Lake ...	R.D.C., who purchase in bulk.
Distington ...	Distington	Crummock Lake ...	" " "
	Pica	Oatlands Pit ...	Moresby Coal Co."
Lamplugh ...	Kirkland	Springs from gravel over slate rock on	R.D.C.
	Crossgates	Owsen Fell ...	R.D.C.
	Winder	Cogra Moss ...	Arlecdon & Frizington Urban District Council
Ennerdale and Kinniside	Ennerdale Bridge ...	Ennerdale Lake ...	Whitehaven Town Council.
Salter and Eskett	Salter and Eskett ...	Cogra Moss ...	Egremont Urban District Council.
Netherwasdale ...	Strands	Springs	R.D.C.
Gosforth ...	Gosforth, Hall Senna ...	Springs from gravel over volcanic rock in the valleys of Scale Beck, Peagill and Bengarthgill in the hills above Gosforth	Whitehaven Rural District Council.
Ponsonby ...	Ponsonby, Calder ...		" "
St. Bridget ...	Calderbridge, Blackbeck, and part of Beckermat		" "
St. John ...	Part of Beckermat, Low Mill, Cringlethwaite and Scurrigill		" "
Lowside Quarter	Low Mill, Braystones, Nethertown, Middletown, Coulderton		" "
Haile ...	Haile		" "

All the the supplies are constant. The source of supply in each case is such as to secure the greatest possible freedom from the risk of organic contamination. None of the waters has any appreciable plumbo-solvent action.

TABLE VIII.—SHOWING CHARACTER AND NUMBER
OF NUISANCES FOUND AND ABATED.

Accumulation of Manure	...	...	...	...	15
Standing liquid filth	...	...	...	...	4
Pail Closets and Privies	...	...	...	...	22
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	13
Dwelling-house overcrowded	...	...	...	...	1
Total					55

TABLE IX.—INSPECTIONS UNDER THE HOUSING,
TOWN PLANNING, &c., ACT, 1909, MADE
DURING THE YEAR 1919.

PARISH.	Number of Houses Inspected.	Number of Informal Notices to Remedy Defects.	Number of Statutory Notices Served.	Number of Notices Complied with.	Number of Cases where work is in hand.	Number of Notices not com- plied with.
Distington	42	37	.	8	18	11
Ennerdale & Kinniside	8	6	...	4	1	1
Gosforth	20	16	...	7	6	3
Haile	3	2	...	2	...	...
Hensingham & Weddicar	46	40	...	17	13	10
Lamplugh	26	22	...	12	3	7
Lowside Quarter	6	5	...	3	...	2
Moresby...	13	10	...	5	3	2
Netherwasdale	...	.	...	...	...	...
Parton	38	32	...	10	9	13
Ponsonby	3	2	...	2	...	...
Preston Quarter	3	1	...	1	...	...
Sandwith & Rottington	4	3	...	2	...	1
St. Bees	31	27	...	13	10	4
St. Bridget's	14	10	...	6	2	2
St. John's	15	12	...	8	1	3
Salter and Eskett	6	5	...	2	2	1
Total	278	230	...	102	68	60

TABLE X.—SHOWING THE CHARACTER AND NUMBER OF DEFECTS
FOUND TO EXIST.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.				DRAINAGE				DWELLING HOUSES.						
In-sufficient.	DEFECTIVE.		In-sufficient.	Choked or Defective.	Untapped Drain Inlets.	DEFECTIVE.		Roofs and Chimneys.	Windows.	Stairs.	Ceilings.	Floors.	Paving of Yards.	Spouting.
	W.C.s, Privies, Pail Closets & Ashpits.	W.C. Flushing Apparatus.				Sub-soil Drains.	Sinkstone Waste Pipes.							
11	62	27	39	57	10	8	9	46	12	6	19	23	21	6

DWELLING HOUSES.				WATER SUPPLY.		TOTAL.
Damp Walls.	Low Ceilings.	Insufficient Light and Ventilation.	Dangerous Building.	Insufficient and Defective.		
45	1	4	1	6	413	

TABLE X.—continued

TABLE X.—continued

TABLE XI.—SHEWING THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED WORKSHOPS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF WHITEHAVEN DURING THE YEAR 1919, AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED THEREIN.

Nature of Business.	No. of Work-shops.	Number of Persons Employed.		
		Male.	Female.	Total.
Joiners	7	13	..	13
Blacksmiths	9	15	...	15
Dressmakers	2	...	9	9
Tailors	3	7	2	9
Shoemakers	6	13	...	13
Cloggers	2	3	...	3
Painters	3	6	...	6
Plumbers	2	3	...	3
Flour Mixing	2	5	...	5
Confectioners	5	...	11	11
Motor Repairer	1	1	...	1
Total	42	66	22	88

Closet Accommodation.—The character of the district varies from purely agricultural, with scattered houses, to distinctly industrial, more or less thickly populated.

In the populous and closely-built centres the water-carriage is entirely adopted ; in the districts partly agricultural and industrial, and purely agricultural, privies and pail closets, whichever may be the most suitable for the particular locality, are in general use.

Of 2,793 dwelling-houses in the district there are approximately 1,360 water-closets, 1,026 privies and 407 pail closets.

Scavenging.—The Council contract for the removal of house refuse in the following parishes (or parts thereof) :—St. John, Moresby, Hensingham, Lamplugh, Parton and Distington.

At Low Keekle Terrace, in the Parish of Hensingham, there are four houses with privies and fixed ashpits. More frequent emptying and cleansing has been undertaken.

In all other cases movable ashbins are in use.

A new tip for refuse has been secured at Distington.

Cowsheds.—There are sixty cowsheds on the register. Regular inspections are made, and cowkeepers are urged to observe greater cleanliness of the premises. Twelve informal notices to remove accumulations of manure from premises occupied by Registered Cowkeepers have been complied with. A number of small improvements have been effected on my suggestion. I hope that during the present year circumstances will permit more thorough examination of all cowsheds, and that it may be possible to get much-needed alterations carried out.

Slaughter-houses.—Six Slaughter-houses are registered. Cleanliness of the premises is observed and limewashing done at stated intervals in accordance with requirements of the bye-laws.

An informal notice to repair with concrete the floor of a slaughter-house was complied with.

Two carcasses of cows inspected were affected with Tuberculosis. In both cases the butcher had the carcasses destroyed, so it was not necessary to seize them.

Bakehouses.—The number of bakehouses on the register is five. Twelve visits of inspection were made. Cleanliness is strictly observed. No notices were necessary.

Overcrowding.—Nuisance from overcrowding has been abated in one case only—in the Parish of Hensingham. Other cases known to exist could not be dealt with, owing to insufficient housing accommodation. A large percentage of these cases will be met when the Housing Schemes now in hand have been completed.

Fitness of Houses.—The general standard of housing in the district is good, but a large number of houses are damp, chiefly owing to the porous nature of the stone used for building. A number of houses of the lower type are in bad repair through neglect of owners to execute minor repairs during the period of the war. The defects are mainly of roofs, floors and plaster, and insufficient light and ventilation. I am now pressing owners to have these defects remedied.

Rats.—In September rats had become numerous at a disused quarry at St. Bees, where house refuse is deposited. A supply of rat-killer was obtained, baits prepared and laid. The result has proved very satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JASON ELLWOOD,

Sanitary Inspector.

